

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-17, 19-23, 25, 26 and 29 will remain in the application. Claims 27 and 28 are canceled in this response.

Claim 26 has been amended to include the features of objected to claim 27, which has been canceled.

In Section 1 of the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action, claims 26-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is traversed through the amendment of claim 26 wherein the phrase "to cause the phase transition material" has been deleted.

In Section 3 of the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action, claims 26 and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ito.

Claim 28 has been canceled. This rejection is traversed through the amendment of claim 26, which has been amended to include the features previously found in objected to claim 27.

In Section 5 of the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action, claim 29 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito as applied to claim 26 above, and further in view of official notice of the use of tapered write poles in transducers, as in Ito's figure 3. Since claim 29 depends from claim 26, this rejection is traversed for the reason set forth above with respect to the traversal of the rejection of claim 26.

In Section 7 of the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-17, 19-23 and 25 have been allowed.

In Section 8 of the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action, claim 27 has been indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §112 set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 26 has been amended to include the elements of claim 27.

All claims in the application are believed to be in allowable form.
Allowance of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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